

CENTRAL INTELLIGENCE AGENCY

INFORMATION REPORT

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North Korean Army Troops in Kangwon Province

1. Between 21 and 23 September 1953 the following North Korean army troops and installations were observed south of Pohyon-ni (N 38-36, E 128-16) (DT-362717):

DT-359629 - One kilometer southwest of Hill 554 there were 20 bunker-type barracks, each 2.5 meters high and 2 meters wide, spaced at about 10-meter intervals. An estimated three to five men could be housed in each bunker. No gun emplacements were visible.

DT-373693 - One kilometer northwest of Hill 321 there were five of the same bunker-type barracks and one platoon.

DT-371682 - One kilometer southwest of Hill 321 one squad was digging a bunker about 35 meters long and 1.5 meters wide, facing southeast. About five meters in front of the new bunker six triangular bunkers for one-man guard posts were being built at three-meter intervals.

DT-372700 - One platoon of about 30 soldiers of the 7 Division, VII Corps, was stationed at P'ibang.

DT-367703 - Two squads were working on the road at T'odong. A number of bunker-type barracks about 2.5 meters high and 2 meters wide, capable of housing three to five men, were spaced at about 10-meter intervals in the valley along the road.

DT-381697 - One squad was standing guard at 25-meter intervals on Hill 267 in a trench 2 meters high and 1.3 meters wide. One squad was digging a new bunker about 35 meters long about 10 meters below the sentries. Another squad was digging new bunkers about 30 meters long at 10-meter intervals about 200 meters north of Hill 267. No sentry was visible.

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DT-399703 - One kilometer north of Hill 267 two squads were posted on a diagonal line, at about 25-meter intervals. They were armed with Soviet rifles and PPSH's.

DT-382708 - One squad was digging a bunker about 25 meters long, about 1,300 meters north of Hill 267. This was an extension of an already completed bunker, 10 meters above.

DT-368715 - Two squads were digging a bunker 45 meters long and 2.5 meters wide on Hill 226.

Roads Leading into Pohyon-ni

2. The road from Songt'an-ni (DT-375770) to Pohyon-ni was three meters wide, comparatively smooth, and in good condition. Either ox carts or motor vehicles could travel on it. From Chakpong (DT-337665) to Pohyon-ni the three-meter wide road was comparatively smooth and in good condition, capable of handling motor vehicles, though no tire tracks were visible. The road from Paekch'on'gyo-ri (DT-326721) to Pohyon-ni was three meters wide and in fairly good condition.

Transportation of Supplies

3. Supplies were transported from Songt'an-ni to Pohyon-ni by Soviet-made GAZ and Molotov trucks which operated only between 7 and 11 p.m. Five or six loads were transported daily. Horse or ox carts were not observed. Since the cargo was covered with canvas, the type of supplies being transported was not determined. The following groups of trucks traveling at about 30 miles per hour at ten-meter intervals were observed:

- On 21 September at 8 p.m. three fully loaded trucks were headed north from Pohyon-ni toward Songt'an-ni. The lead truck used one headlight; the others none. At 9:35 p.m. two trucks, both without headlights, were headed south. One truck had a load of lumber, the other straw sacks.
- On 23 September at 7:20 p.m. six trucks without lights were going north toward Songt'an-ni. At a later hour five trucks with headlights on were headed south.

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